AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheet(s) of drawings include changes to show that Figure 7 has been amended to illustrate 702 which represents the media stream referred to in paragraph [0045] of the specification.

REMARKS

Claims 1-24 are pending in the application. Claims 1-24 are rejected. Claims 19-24 are objected to. Claim 19 has been amended.

Drawing Objections

The drawing objections raised by the Examiner have been addressed by the amendments to the specification and drawings contained in this amendment. With the entry of this amendment, it is respectfully requested that the objections be withdrawn.

Claim Objections

Claims 19-24 were objected to because of minor informalities. Claim 19 has been amended to address the Examiner's concern regarding the statutory class of the claim. The amendment to claim 19 also corrects the informalities of claims 20-24 because of their dependency on amended claim 19. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the objection be withdrawn and that claims 19-24 be allowed.

35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being allegedly anticipated by Yao et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,785,262 B1). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claim 1 of the Applicants' claimed invention recites a method for suppressing silence frames in a stream of media. The method includes receiving a stream of media from a user and suppressing at least one silence frame from the received stream of media.

The Applicants' claimed invention receives a stream of media from a user and **suppresses at least one silence frame.**

8

This is in contrast to the Yao et al. patent which appears to only "In a receiver, data frames are generated from received signals and stored in a queue. Prior to storage in the receiver queue, some of the **data frames** are dropped. Date frames are dropped either at a single fixed rate, a dual fixed rate, or a variable rate, generally depending on a communication channel latency." (Abstract)

Also, the portion of the Yao et al. patent that the Examiner emphasizes in the Office Action (col. 3, lines 53-58) discloses that "Data frames are dropped at a second higher rate if a processor determines that the communication channel latency has increased significantly. This embodiment reduces the communication channel latency quickly during bursty channel error conditions where latency can increase rapidly."

It appears that Yao et al. fails to teach or suggest at least the feature of suppressing at least one silence frame. Yao et al. simply drops data frames in general and does not suppress silence frames in particular as claimed by the Applicants.

The Applicants would like the Examiner to note that a silence frame refers to undesirable silence periods that cause end-to-end media communication latency. These silence frames include initial silence frames appearing ahead of the first actual media frame as well as silence frames that appear between successive media frames. To reduce call set-up and media-delivery latency, it is desirable to minimize such silence periods. This information pertaining to silence frames is discussed in paragraph [0002] of the Applicants' specification. A silence frame is different than a data frame which Yao et al. discloses.

Therefore, for at least these reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection be withdrawn and that claim 1 be allowed.

Claims 7, 13 and 19 are independent claims that recite related subject matter to claim 1 and should be allowed for at least the same reasons presented above regarding claim 1 as well as the additionally recited features found in the claims.

Claims 2-6, 8-12, 14-18, and 20-24 are dependent claims that depend upon their respective independent claims 1, 7, 13 and 19 and should be allowed for at least the same reasons presented above regarding the independent claims as well as the additionally recited features found in the claims.
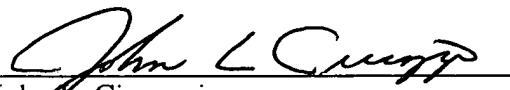
CONCLUSION

In light of the amendments contained herein, Applicants submit that the application is in condition for allowance, for which early action is requested.

Please charge any fees or overpayments that may be due with this response to Deposit Account No. 17-0026.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: February 21, 2006   By: _____

John L. Ciccozzi
Reg. No. 48,984
(858) 845-2611

QUALCOMM Incorporated
Attn: Patent Department
5775 Morehouse Drive
San Diego, California 92121-1714
Telephone: (858) 658-5787
Facsimile: (858) 658-2502

11

FIG. 7

702

1 ← 704
1 2 ← 706
1 2 A ← 708
1 2 A B ← 710
1 2 A B C ← 712
1 2 A B C 3 ← 714
1 2 A B C 3 4 ← 716
2 A B C 3 4 5 ← 718
A B C 3 4 5 D ← 720
B C 3 4 5 D E ← 722
C 3 4 5 D E 6 ← 724
3 4 5 D E 6 F ← 726
4 5 D E 6 F G ← 728
5 D E 6 F G H ← 730
D E 6 F G H I ← 732
E 6 F G (H) I J ← 734
6 F G (H) I J K ← 736
F G (J) J K L ← 738
G K L 7 ← 740
K L 7 8 ← 742
L 7 8 M ← 744
7 8 M N ← 746
8 M N O ← 748
M N O (O) P ← 750
N O (O) P Q ← 752
O P Q R ← 754
Q R S ← 756

STOP
PUNCTURING ⟶
SILENCE FRAMES

9/9